

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 20-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-2, 10-12, 14, and 20-25 were amended in this response. Claim 27 was cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0016], [0050], [0060] and [0064] of the Specification. Entry of the amendments and favorable reconsideration are earnestly requested.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

The Office Action objected to claim 22 for minor informalities. In light of the present amendments to claim 22, Applicant submits the objectionable matter has been addressed. Withdrawal of the objection is earnestly requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10, 12-14, 16 and 20-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki et al. (US Patent 6,253,218) in view of Brosnan et al. (US Pat. Pub. 2004/002380).

Claims 2 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki et al. (US Patent 6,253,218) in view of Brosnan et al. (US Pat. Pub. 2004/002380) and further in view of Vaananen et al. (US Pat. Pub. 2002/0175896).

Claims 7, 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki et al. (US Patent 6,253,218) in view of Brosnan et al. (US Pat. Pub. 2004/002380) and further in view of Adler (US Patent 6,340,957). In light of the present amendments, Applicant submits these rejections are overcome.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the interview conducted on August 4, 2009. During the interview, Applicant explained the features pertaining to “weight” (alternately “density”) of objects, and how the attributes affected display positions vis-à-vis virtual forces. Referring to independent claim 1, Applicant and the examiner agreed that the present amendments clarifying the meaning and function of these features would overcome the cited

references. Accordingly, Applicant is submitting the present amendments to claim 1, along with similar amendments to independent claims 10, 12, 14, and 20-25. In light of these amendments, Applicant has also amended dependent claims 2 and 11 to improve form.

As such, Applicant submits the rejections to independent claims 1, 10, 12, 14, and 20-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 are overcome and should be withdrawn. Since the remaining claims depend directly and/or indirectly to the independent claims, they are allowable for the same reasons. As such, an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly requested. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 50-1290. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (100809-00225 (SCEP 20.732)) on the account statement.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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